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ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 9, 2014

Democratic Contact:
C. Murphy Hebert
(602) 926-5848
cmhebert@azleg.gov

Republican Contact:
Christopher Leone
(602) 926-3233
cleone@azleg.gov

Speaker Tobin and Rep. Hale applaud ADOT

Fast response to Highway 89 landslide critical to area's recovery

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Eight months after a landslide forced the closure of a portion of US Route 89, just south of Page, the Arizona Department of Transportation completed an alternative route. The alternative route, US Route 89T, has been open without restriction since last October.

"Despite a very difficult task, ADOT has given Page and the surrounding communities the chance to return to a more normal style of life and commerce," said Speaker Tobin. "Without 89T many people, families and business would have suffered irreparable harm."

The city of Page is a trading and a tourism center for Northern Arizona. The splendor of this area, which includes Lake Powell, attracts people from all parts of the country.

"I am proud of and grateful for the joint effort between the state of Arizona, the Navajo Nation, and the federal government to immediately construct an alternative route," said Rep. Albert Hale, D-St. Michaels. "ADOT's quick response has helped to minimize the impact and return the flow of traffic, tourism and trade to the area."

The alternative route is fully paved with fencing to keep animals from wandering onto the roadway. 89T actually provides a more direct path to Page than the original route, which veered toward Lees Ferry before cutting back toward the gateway to Lake Powell.

"We must continue to remind people that this area is open for business and remains a must-visit destination" said Speaker Tobin.

"It is a majestic place, with a diversity of people and natural beauty not found anywhere else," added Rep Hale.

An overview of the landslide and 89T is available on ADOT's website.